

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

The invention relates to a process for the recovery of a macrolide in substantial pure form comprising including:

- a) treatment of treating an impure or crude macrolide with water immiscible solvent to form a mixture,
- b) optionally concentration of concentrating the mixture,
- c) treating treatment with ammonia gas to phase out impurities,
- d) separation of separating impurities,
- e) optionally concentration concentrating of the a phase containing the macrolide,
- f) loading on silica gel chromatography, optionally reversed phase or pretreated with silver, and elution of eluting the macrolide,
- g) affording the macrolide in the substantially pure form,
- h) optional repetition of step stes f and g to afford the macrolide in the substantially pure form. The macrolide is preferably tacrolimus, immunomycin or sirolimus.